**American Government**

**Study Guide – Legislative Branch**

**January 30, 2017**

***Terms to know:***

*apportion commerce power cloture*

*bill deficit financing conference committee*

*floor consideration consensus party caucus*

*franking privilege impeach pigeonhole*

*gerrymandering naturalization quorum*

*incumbent Necessary and Proper clause seniority rule*

*oversight function patent standing committee*

*prorogue perjury veto*

*recess public debt whip*

*term subpoena*

***Main Ideas:***

*1. Terms, qualifications (formal and informal ) of a member of the House, Senate.*

*2. How often does reapportionment take place in the House of Representatives?*

*3. What determines total seats in the House?*

*4. Why is Senate called the “upper house?”*

*5. Total number of members in Congress?*

*6. Where are the powers of Congress found?*

*7. What kind of taxes can Congress levy?*

*8. What is bankruptcy?*

*9. What are Congress’s foreign relations powers?*

*10. What does the term “commerce” in the Commerce clause refer to?*

*11. How may a constitutional amendment be proposed? Passed?*

*12. When does Congress begin a new term?*

*13. Who are the leaders of the Senate?*

*14. Why is the House Rules Committee so powerful?*

*15. Be able to identify: joint, select, standing, annual committees.*

*16. Where must revenue bills originate?*

*17. Who can introduce a bill in the Senate?*

***Critical Thinking Questions:***

*What are the positive and negative aspects of seniority rule?*

*Be able to describe the manner in which Congress and the President share power in the fields of foreign affairs, war, and national defense?*